

1 A MECHANISM FOR ENCODING AND DECODING UPGRADEABLE RPC/ XDR
2 STRUCTURES

3
4 ABSTRACT

5 A method and system for communicating across heterogeneous networks having
6 components with dissimilar data structure definitions is disclosed in which
7 determinations are made as to whether the sender is up-level or down-level and whether
8 the up-level data structure size is greater or lesser than the down-level data structure size.
9 According to these determinations, data fields for the decoded data structure may skip
10 data or assign default values. The invention reduces upgrade costs and system down
11 time.